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PREHISTORIC ART

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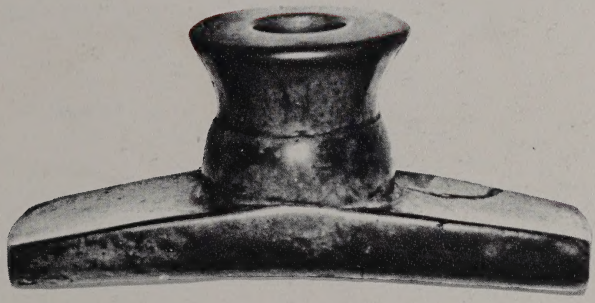

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PREHISTORIC ART - ARCHAEOLOGY "81"

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FOUNDED IN 1964

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COVER PHOTO

Dr. Paul F. Titterington of St. Louis, Missouri, excavated this Hopewell platform pipe along with two other platforms; one, its exact shape duplicate and one, about one-third smaller. Also found was an owl effigy platform pipe and a large thin Ross blade created from Knife River flint. These five Hopewell offerings are some of the highest artforms offered by the Illinois and Missouri peoples of 500 B.C. - 500 A.D., excavated in St. Louis County, Missouri.

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EDITORIAL

John Baldwin

Many of our members have requested that PREHISTORIC ART do an editorial on three subjects—high prices, fakes and the future of the Genuine Indian Relic Society and its journal. I will cover all three as I see them, making note that these are my opinions and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of all of our officers.

The old saying, "You ain't seen nothing yet!", I believe applies to the subject of high prices. The collector that does not see it this way and refuses to collect under this assumption is *done* adding choice relics to his collection. Sure, he or she can still field hunt, and/or get a bargain from someone not up on prices, and more power to them, if they succeed. But only on rare occasions will this add a classic relic. The active collector of today is a new breed. He is a business man, an investor and a connoisseur of fine art. In many cases he has never, until recently, collected Indian relics. If he is not knowledgeable he will seek advice from known collectors. Sometimes the advice is good and sometimes his advisor is leading him down the path. Mostly this new collector is purchasing known, documented and pictured items.

Why are relics bringing high prices? The person to blame for this is anyone laboring to publish a book or researching an Indian relic and telling the world of its desirability and beauty. The world is finally getting the message. My prediction is that common and ordinary relics will remain at low price levels. Medium grade relics will remain at low to medium price levels and the small quantity of top pictured and known relics will continually command higher and higher prices until they are on a deserving par with the world's top art. The only problem is deciding what is "top" and what is not. The recent trend toward study, research, authentication and documentation seems to be solving that problem. The best collections of the future will be small in number of relics, but the quality of each will be superb.

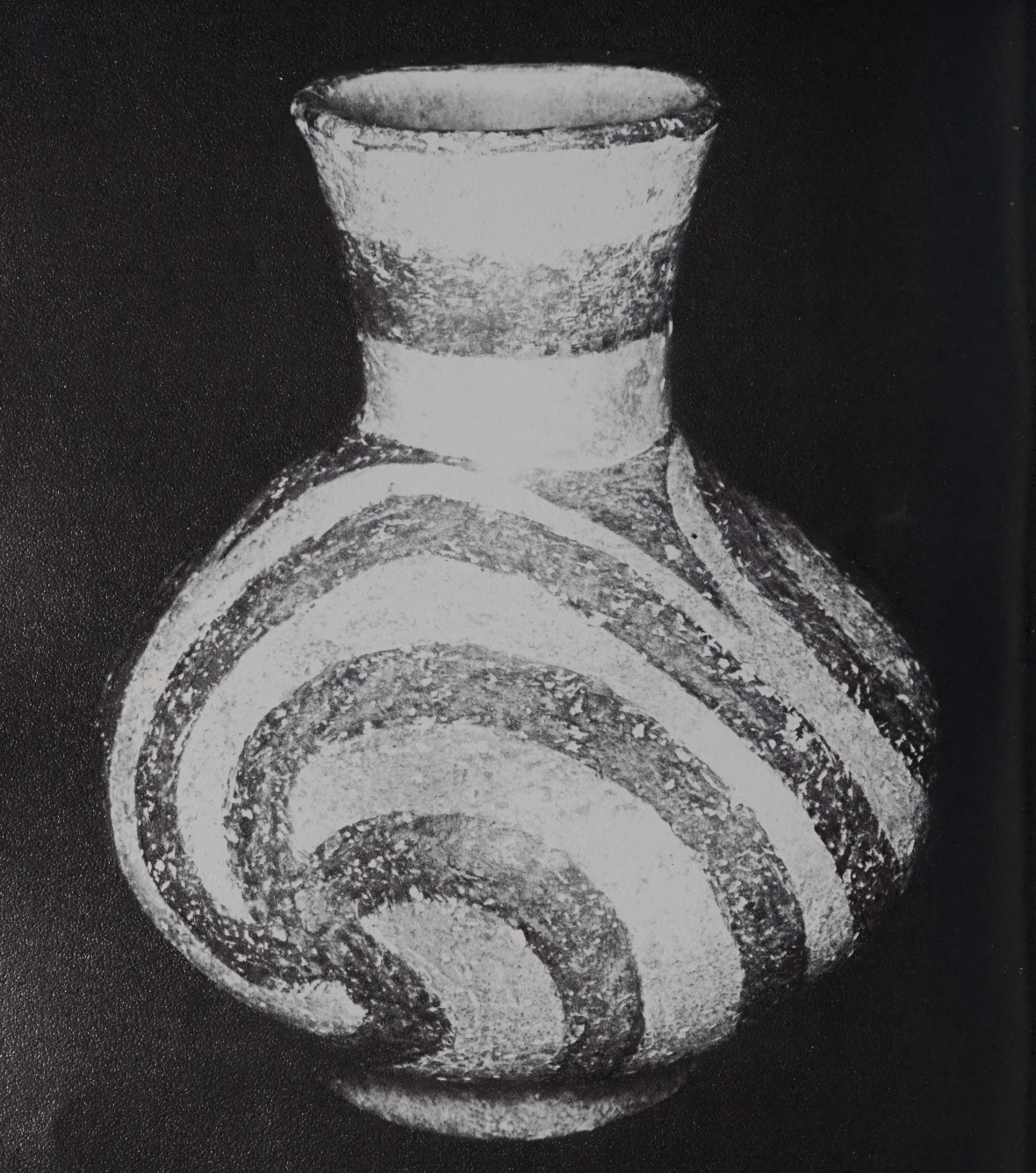
I truly believe there are more fake top relic comparables than there are authentics. The good facsimile fakes of the Illinois "50s" now have second and third generation histories. The ceremonials reproductions are in some cases better than the original. This problem is not going to go away just because the collector abhors it. He must recognize it, study it and become knowledgeable about it, not just on a local basis but nationally, in order to judge the authentic from the fraudulent. The man that tells you he and his friends are older and wiser collectors are fools. Faking is on a grander scale than anyone imagines. We are constantly receiving confidential information about fakes and fakers. Generally most collectors are cautious and herein lies perhaps another reason for high prices. *There can never be more than the original number of authentic relics!*

The future of the Genuine Indian Relic Society and its journal, PREHISTORIC ART—ARCHAEOLOGY 81", is up to you, its members. The officers and board of directors have many positive great plans. A few of these people do all the work. The time is here and now for those contributors to be helped and backed by you, the membership. Don't just read this; do something about it! Write a letter of support. Write an article, send in quality photos with captions—be a contributor! Your contribution adds unbelievable strength to your—and I repeat, "your"—society. If the above is too difficult then do the next and maybe the most important—sign up a new member.

Thank you

An Ohio Flintridge dovetail of unusual color. The inverted V about one and one-half inches up from the point is a yellow green. The area below that is the Flintridge gold while above the V is the deep purple and cream and golden browns of chalcedony. On the base and right shoulder is mottled a crystal white coloration. Found in central Ohio.

Collection of John Baldwin
West Olive, Michigan



Nodena Red Swirl Design Pot. Excavated in Lee County, Arkansas. This pot is unusually small as it stands six inches tall.

Collection of Frank Morast
Columbus, Georgia

MINI HEAD POT

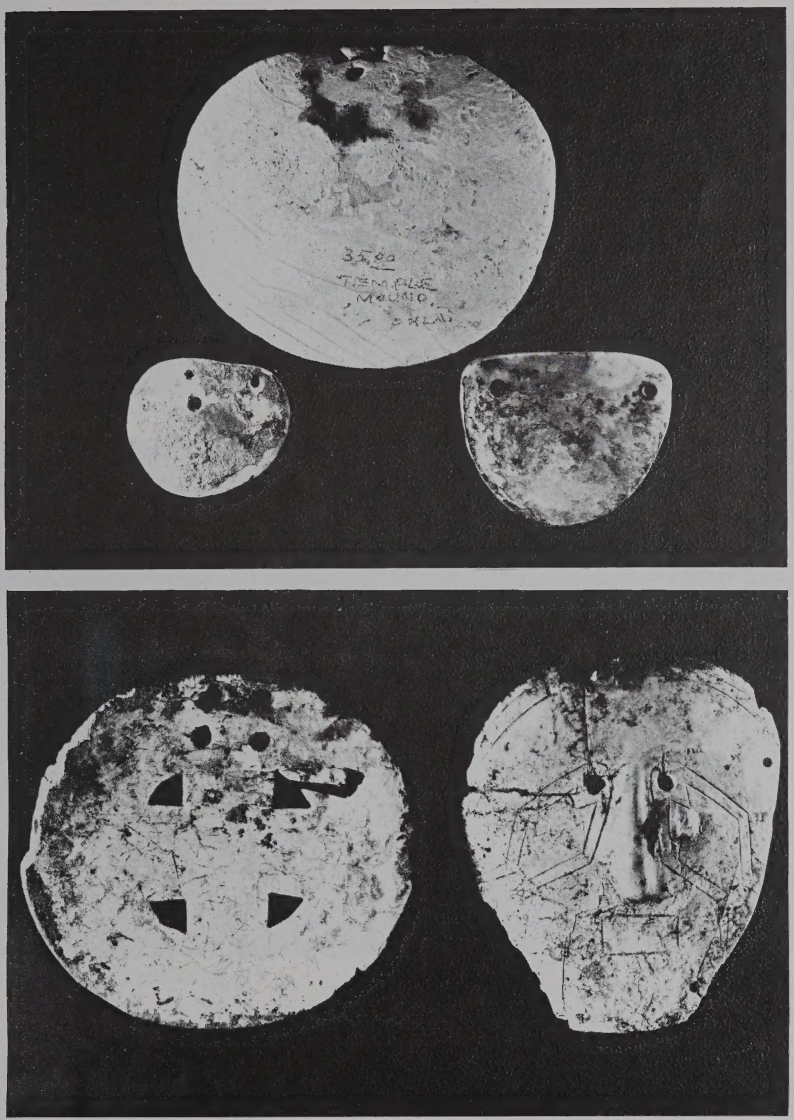
The most common form of the classification known as head effigy pottery is of a general size, ranging from five to eight inches in height with a six to eight-inch width or depth. A measurement of this magnitude relates to what can be called life size. Smaller head effigies become a sub-classification which to many of us are known as "mini head effigy pots".

A mini pot displayed above, is known as the "Yarbro Head Pot", having dimensions of only 3⅞ inches in height by 4⅝ inches in width. Workmanship as well as coloring designate this as of the pottery known as "Carson Red on Buff". Classic art form is displayed in the expression of a hair motif, five perforations in each ear and pursed eyes and lips. Fourteen hundred A.D. Carson Red on Buff is indicated by the complete red slip over the entire vessel except for the nose, eyes and forehead extending from ear to ear which retained the buff motif.

Found in Mississippi County, Arkansas, at a very shallow depth of less than ten inches not in a burial but in association with four small pieces of unrelated pottery.

Shell Gorget or Mask—Found, McMohon Island, Tennessee. These are of the Early Dallas Culture.

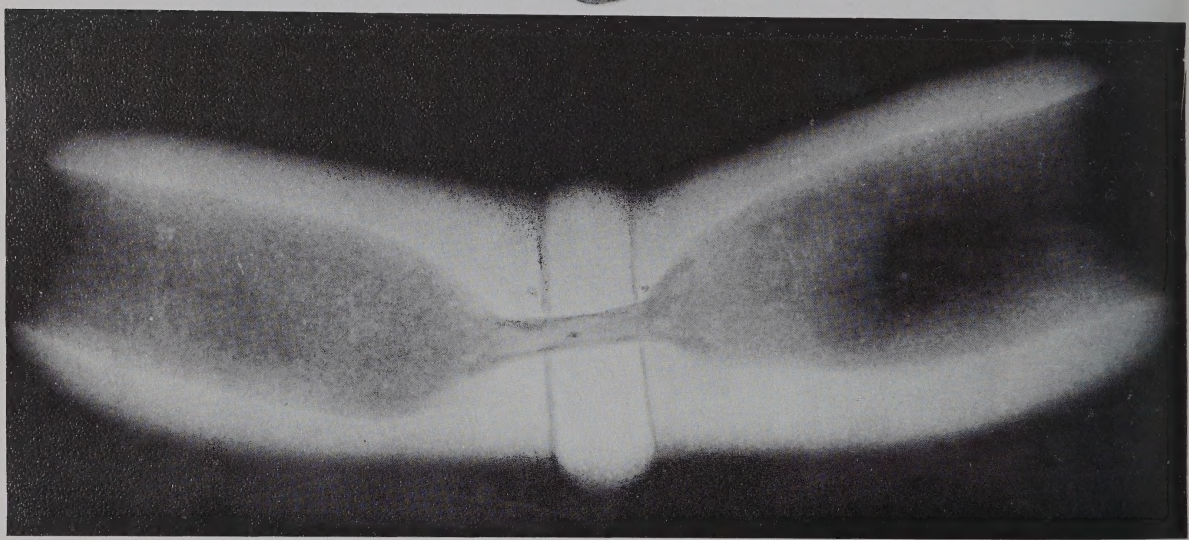
From Tommy Beutell and Porter Womack Collection



Top Photo—Lower left, three-hole shell gorget, Adams County, Illinois. Top, Large three-hole shell gorget, Spiro Mound Group, LeFlore County, Oklahoma. Lower right, two-hole gorget of shell, Oregon County, Missouri.

Bottom Photo—Left, four-hole cut shell gorget, Poinsett County, Arkansas. Right, weeping-eye shell gorget from Arkansas.

Collection of John P. Grotte
Coatsburg, Illinois



SHAMAN'S DOUBLE — ANGLED TUBE PIPE

Gordon Hart — Bluffton, Indiana

Descriptive termnology for this classification of prehistoric smoking instrument has been an ongoing challenge to our historic writers. The combined written material of authors from 1800 to present have projected many theories as to why a need, and for what use, brought this combination of form.

Relating to the suggestions of its use, the most acceptable is that of a shaman's tube pipe being utilized for medical and/or ceremonial rituals. The large double chambers interconnected by a small hole lend credence to the theory of placing smoldering material similar to tobacco in one chamber to produce heat, while in the distal chamber, mint or heavily scented spice was used to form warm potent vapors. The shaman's moist breath would enhance his properties for relief under a variety of discomforting conditions by blowing in the chamber through the burning material on into the mint-filled chamber relieving a strained appendage or joint of the body, much as we apply heat and analgesic vapors as a soothing agent for a nerve or muscle injury today.

Another conjecture suggestable, is prehistoric man's place of treatment, if in an enclosed environment. The action would not disenchant the atmosphere by refreshing the decor with a bit of mint or herbal air-conditioning!

The second-mentioned descriptive termnology was that of form, falling in the category of one of the following:

Double-coned pipe
Hour-glass tube pipe
Banded center expanded tube pipe
Double conical tube pipe
Conoidal pipe
Class G tube pipe
Dice box

All of the above have self-expression in their termnology except the "Class G tube pipe". In the book, TOBACCO PIPES AND SMOKING CUSTOMS OF THE AMERICAN INDIANS", by George A. West, 1934, pages 141 and 142, he wrote:

> "As an assistance to the student, it is thought desirable to classify the types of tubes found in this area. In plate, 32, fig. 7 is shown an example made of steatite. The sides of the hour-glass tube contract toward a central raised ring. Fig. 7 on page 516 is a picture of Class G tube of steatite, hour-glass type. Cone shaped bore from each end meeting in center. From Knoxville, Tenn. Cat. #391 U.S. National Museum."
>
> ---George West

On pages 397 and 398 of PIPES AND SMOKING CUSTOMS OF THE AMERICAN ABORIGINES BASED ON MATERIAL IN THE U.S. NATIONAL MUSEUM", by Joseph D. McGuire, 1897, published by Smithsonian Institution, is an account of hourglass tube pipes. The second mentioned pipe which is stated "shows a decided curve" is speculated to be a cast of this pipe which is in the author's collection and the subject of this paper. It is quoted as follows:

> "Fig. 39 is a tube of the hourglass pattern, collected by Mr. J. Varden, from Nashville, Tennessee. With few exceptions, these tubes are made from steatite, and are more smoothly ground than is usually the case with conoidal pipes, and show a higher appreciation of art. They vary in length from 5 to 14 inches, with an exterior diameter of from 1½ to 2 inches, the interior of the tube being one-third of an inch or even less, across. The contractions of these tubes often have bands encircling them, made at times in imitation of a rope or cord. Sometimes there are two or even three bands of different widths, intended apparently as ornamentation. The perforations are comparatively straight in these hourglass tubes, though there is a cast of a specimen in the U.S.

National Museum which, upon the exterior, shows a decided curve. The curve once given to a tubular pipe, whether accidentally or by design, would be quickly recognized as an improvement upon the straight tube, thereby enabling one to smoke it with less discomfort than would necessarily result from the use of a straight pipe."

---Joseph D. McGuire, 1897

Gates P. Thruston, in his book, THE ANTIQUITIES OF TENNESSEE AND THE ADJACENT STATES, 1897, gives the following account on pages 280 and 281:

"A fine specimen of polished steatite of the hour-glass or *dice box* form of tubes is photo-engraved from the original in plate XV. (Author's collection.) It is eight inches long, and about two inches in diameter at the ends. The openings at each end are about an inch and a half in diameter, are funnel shaped, and taper to about a half inch at the center. The inside surface shows that the holes were made by a gouge or some sharp instrument that has left traces of furrows upon it."

---Gates P. Thruston, 1897

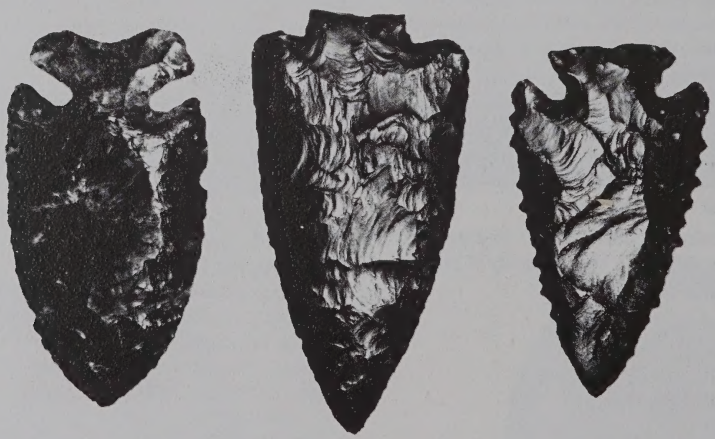
A complete discussion of dating of the biconical tube pipe is presented in HART'S PREHISTORIC PIPE RACK, Gordon Hart, 1979, on Pages 48 through 58. From the above research in compiling a date of this pipe, a time frame of 200 B.C. is approximate dating for the "Double-angled Shaman's Tube pipe", the subject of this paper.

A more exacting form of information is given by the following facts:

Found in Carroll County, Georgia. Size—7½ inches long, 2½ inches in diameter. Three-eights-inch center connecting hole. Crafted from mica-flecked North Carolina gray-grenish black steatite highly polished in some sections but not to a high-gloss sheen.

Three presentations are made; one, of the tube pipe in near actual size and the other two are X-rays made to illustrate the complete inner workmanship and size of cavities.

This paper is a part of the unfinished manuscript for Volume #II of the series of Hart's Prehistoric Works which will follow Volume #I, HART'S PREHISTORIC PIPE RACK, published 1979.



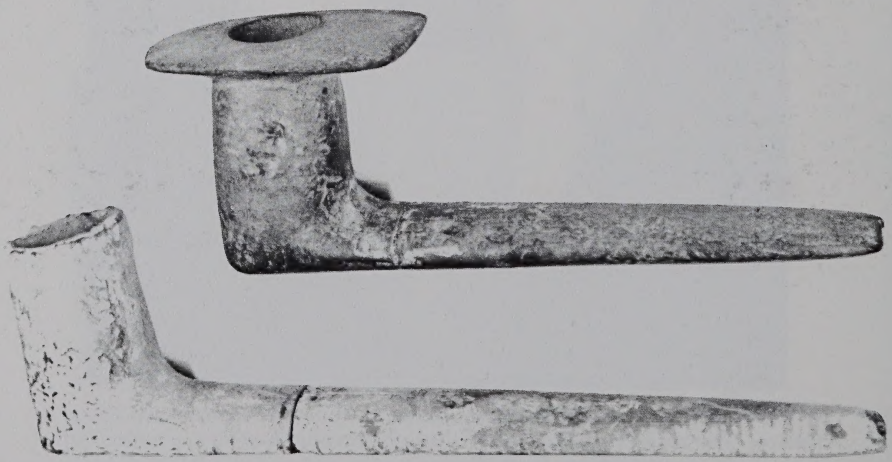
Three black beauties
from the Steven Hart Collection
Fountaintown, Indiana

A fine banded slate Adena gorget resting on one of the finest known Adena blades. The blade is an exact eight inches long by four inches wide. The gorget was created from faulted slate and was found in Licking County, Ohio. Ex-Cameron Parks Collection.

Collection of Ken Spaulding
Ionia, Michigan

Four fine blades displaying fine workmanship, thinness and pleasing color patterns in the material. They were found in the states of Indiana, Illinois and Oklahoma.

Formerly in the Collection of Mike Barnum
Kalamazoo, Michigan.



Two right-angled pipes from the Charles Smith Collection, Modoc, Indiana.

MEETING NOTICES

Columbus, Indiana Meeting—April 12
Billy Bush, Marion Bush, and John Rice
Lincoln Center, Columbus, Indiana

John Baldwin's Fathers Day Meeting—June 21
West Olive, Michigan—6041 Lakeshore Drive
8 miles north of Holland, Michigan Information--616-399-6035
Bring Artifacts for display or sale and card tables for set-up in courtyard.
Open House Sat., June 20 John Baldwin's Home on beautiful Lake Michigan.

MOTELS
Restaurants nearby

Holiday Inn U.S. 31
Phone: 616-396-1424

Blue Mill Inn, U.S. 31
Phone: 616-392-5943

Lincoln, Illinois Meeting—Sunday, July 12
Edwin S. Onken, George Hoke and Larry V. Bibber
511 Pekin Street, Lincoln, Illinois 62652
Tele. 217-732-6403

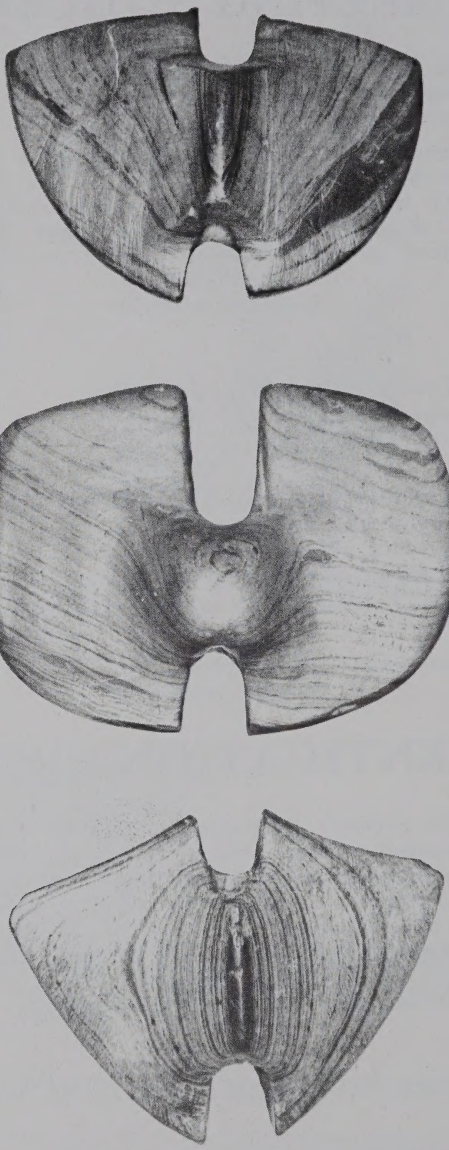
Owensboro, Kentucky Two-day Meeting — August 1&2
Executive Inn — Owensboro, Kentucky
For reservations: Out-of-state, 800-626-1936
Kentucky residents: 800-482-8480
Information---Art Gerber - 812-547-4881

AUTHENTICATION PROGRAM

The Genuine Indian Relic Society's Authentication program is now ten years old. Our permanent files of documented authentic artifacts have become invaluable for research and study purposes. We urge everyone to documet outstanding and well known relics so that the true information can become a permanent and factual part of history. This program has proven to be the strongest and most effective vehicle against fakes. For more information write the chairman of the Authentication Committee. GORDON L. HART 760 N. Main St., Bluffton, IN 46714.

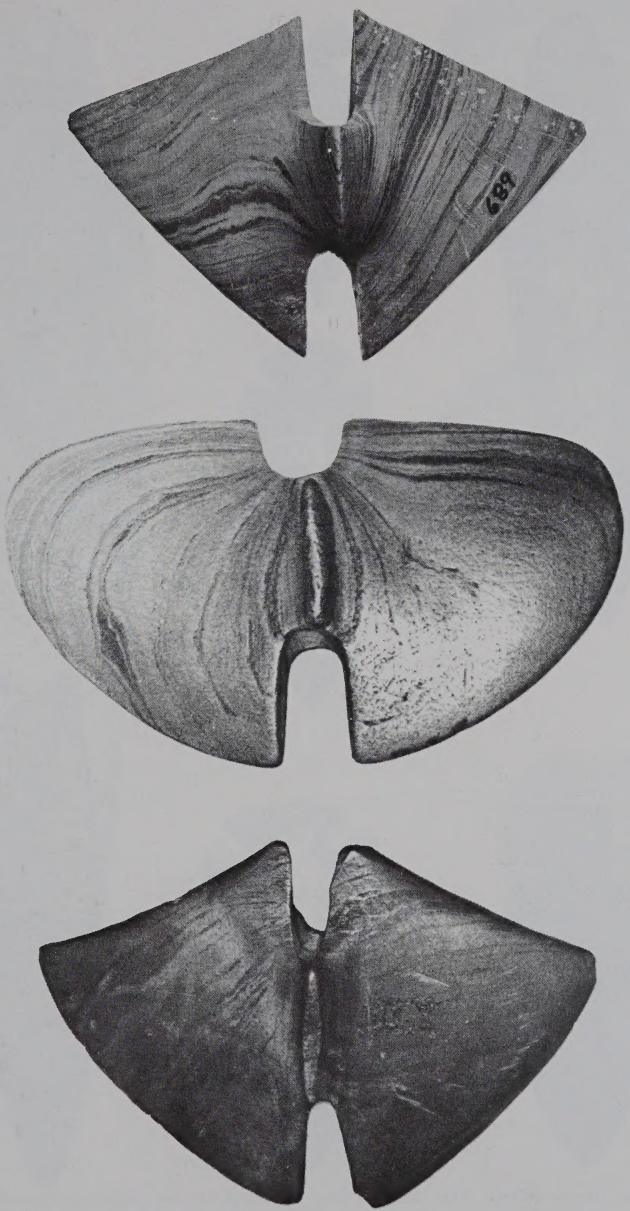
1981 SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

Dues in the Genuine Indian Relic Society, Inc., for the year 1981 are now due. Please send your check or money order payable to the Society in the sum of $10.00 to our Treasurer, Tommy Tucker, Jr., at P.O. Box 1256, Tunica, Mississippi 38676. We ask you to consider a $12.00 active or voting membership, with one time $10.00 initiating fee, or $25.00 or more sustaining membership in the Society. We also ask you to enlist a new member or give a subscription to a friend interested in Indian relics.



Three double-notch banded slate wing bannerstones. These three and the three on the facing page display the two types of double-notch wing type--- pointed wing and rounded wing.

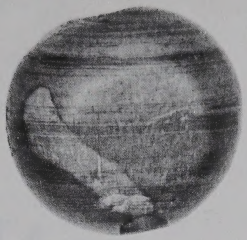
Collection of Clemens Caldwell
Danville, Kentucky

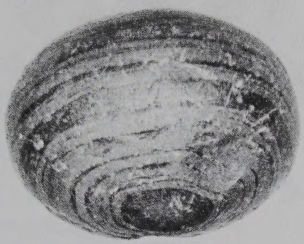


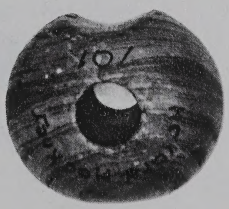
Top—Collection of Art Gerber—Tell City, Indiana.
Center—Collection of Gordon Hart, Bluffton, Indiana.
Bottom—Collection of Steven Hart, Fountaintown, Indiana.

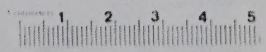
Grouping of quality thin and well-made flint types. Each is a classic example of its type. From Kentucky.

Collection of Clemens Caldwell
Danville, Kentucky









At left is a large Adena or Gary spear type. The black and white photo shows the color variations in this well made point. Photographed actual size.

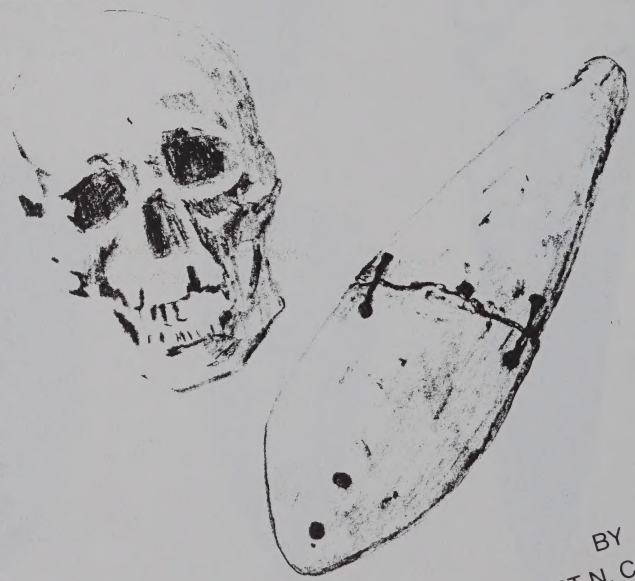
Collection of Clemens Caldwell
Danville, Kentucky

At right are three ball and fluted ball bannerstones of banded slate. The ball banner is thought to be a beginning form of bannerstones.

Collection of Gordon Hart
Bluffton, Indiana

Announcing a new book....

THE GLACIAL KAME INDIANS



BY
ROBERT N. CONVERSE

BOOK REVIEW

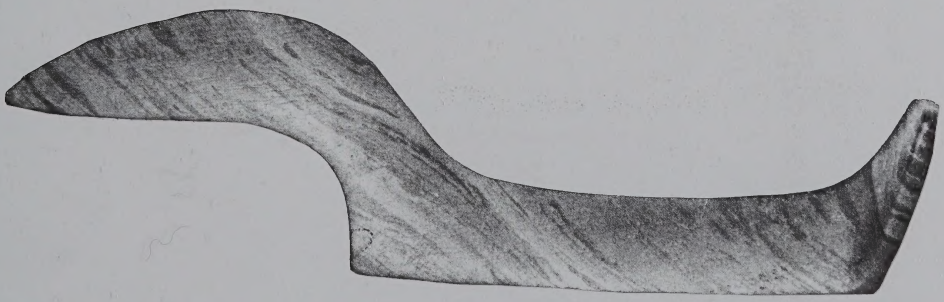
Recommended Reading

THE GLACIAL KAME INDIANS, by Robert N. Converse, is the first comprehensive book to be published on this little known group of prehistoric Indians in over thirty years. Culminating three years of research and more than twenty five years of archaeological experience by the author, the book reveals for the first time many facts and insights into this heretofore unknown phase of midwestern prehistory. The author details not only the comparisons of Glacial Kame with other contemporary groups such as Red Ocher and Meadowood, but also discusses its relationships with Adena, Hopewell, and the Archaic.

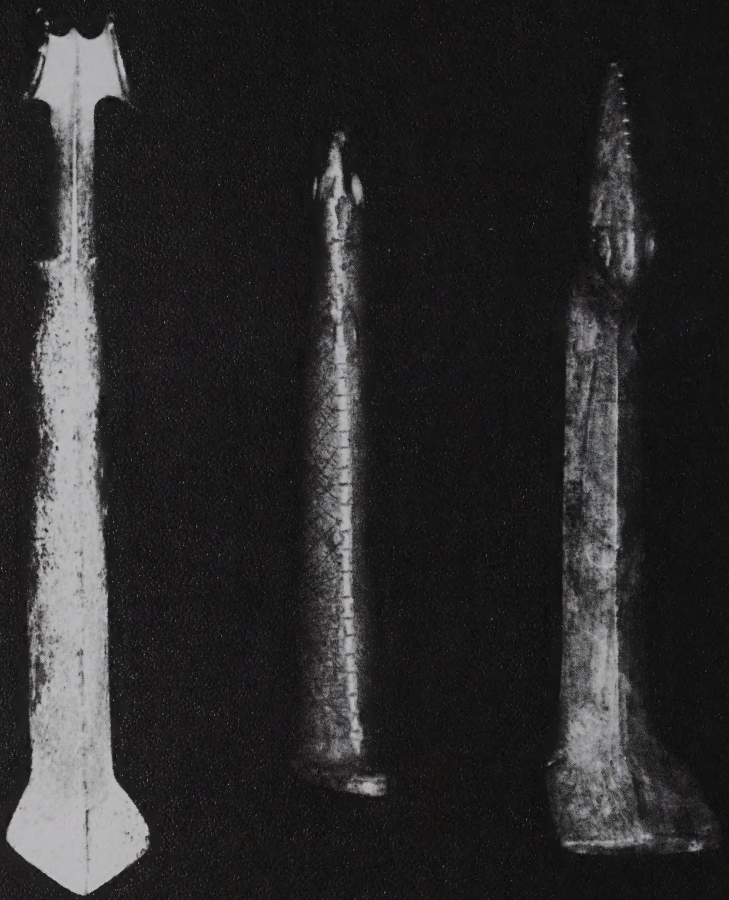
THE GLACIAL KAME INDIANS is a hardbound book containing over 150 pages. There are five maps and eighty five photographs and illustrations. Thirty five Glacial Kame sites, most of which have never been fully published, are described and the artifacts illustrated. Such locations as the Richardson kame, Zimmerman kame, Logan County Williams site, Reber kame, Fox—Rammell kame, Middleburg kame, Orleton Farm, Mulen kame, and the newly discovered Wood County Williams site are described and illustrated as well as many others. The locations of an additional forty one Glacial Kame sites in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Vermont, and Canada are listed.

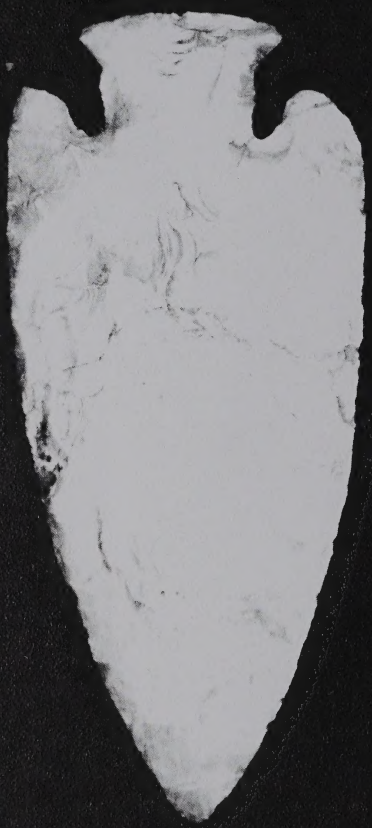
Also included is an appendix discussing the Red Ocher sites in Ohio that describes and illustrates the old as well as new evidence on this culture and its relationship to Glacial Kame and Adena.

THE GLACIAL KAME INDIANS by Robert N. Converse, 6¼ x 9¼ inches, hardbound, dustcover, will be a limited special publication of The Archaeological Society of Ohio, 35 West Riverglen Drive, Worthington, Ohio 43085. Price $12.75 plus $1.00 for mailing.



Glacial Kame birdstone used as Figure 28 of "The Glacial Kame Indians". Found in Montgomery County, Indiana, in a gravel pit. Listed as being a typical Glacial Kame type birdstone. This is one of the many fine photo examples used by Robert Converse.





Multi-colored Flintridge blade of classic Hopewell design.
Collection of Earl Townsend
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Hubert Wachtel's favorite unsharpened Archaic bevel and Terry Reed's famous red and black E-notch. Photographed together to show a "before and after" of the Archaic bevel.

Collection of Gary Davis
Bainbridge, Ohio

HOPEWELL MOUND GOODS FROM ILLINOIS

John Baldwin

Mr. Ray Fryhouff of Galena, Illinois, excavated a small mound on his farm. The excavation took place in the mid-1940's and the pictured Hopewell goods are believed to be the total number of relics found. This group of classic Hopewell offerings contain several unusual Hopewell creations. I believe this burial represents late Hopewell after cultural decline.

At top, center, is a flat hammered pendant. The fact that it was not made into a classic Hopewell design and the fact that it is one-third silver and appears to have been appreciated for the silver content rather than shape identity indicates cultural decline. This idea is fortified by one-half of a copper ear spool, lower right. This was once a classic ear spool. Prior to interment it was reduced to one-half and punched with a second hole reducing it to a button or gorget with its original use at the ear being perhaps only a memory.

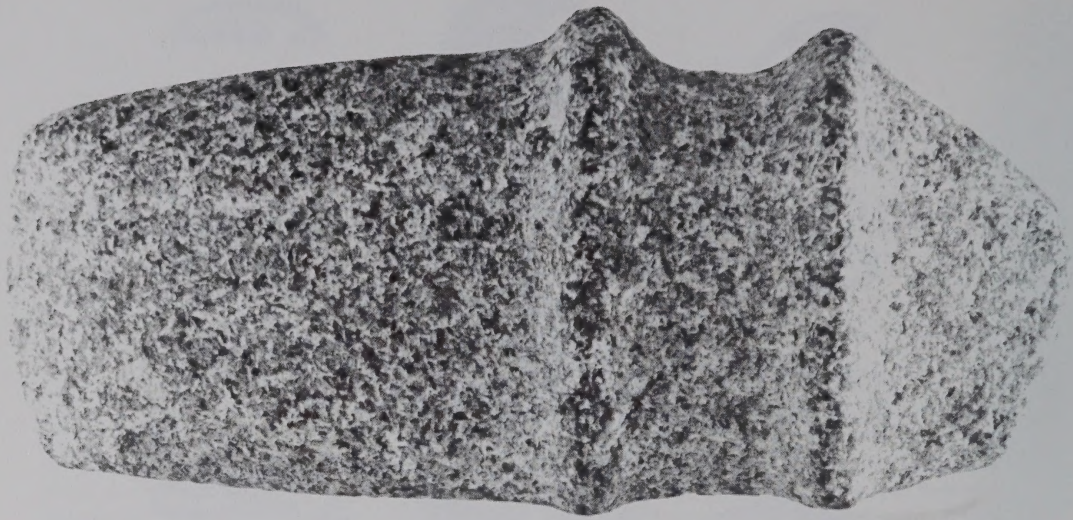
The three flint offerings were created from Knife River flint. This flint is common to Illinois Hopewell. The two Snyders points have been resharpened several times indicating long use prior to burial. The large blade, center, is encrusted with grave stain and is the North, or Hopewell blade classic shape.

At lower center is a copper awl which would have been the perfect flintknapping tool. It is four-way hammered forming a point on one end and two-way hammered at the other end, forming a spatulated end. At each side of the awl are two very large drilled river pearls. At the top and each side of the awl are two heavily tallied bear teeth with jawbone attached. These are the front top teeth and jawbone. The bottom tooth, left side, is an ultimate classic tooth. It is cut square on each end, polished, suspension-drilled in its top edge and drilled for a river pearl inset. Six of the teeth had remaining jawbone left around the tooth. This is heretofore not a common Hopewell trait. In all cases the jawbone was heavily tallied. The lower left tooth and jawbone was drilled for suspension as a pendant, all others were drilled through the side presumably for sew-on fastening.

The most remarkable relic to come from this burial is the eagle claw, upper left corner. This proves an assumed fact that the early cultures used feathers as decoration. A time placement of 500 A.D. would be appropriate for this interment. It is hoped this collection will remain together and be studied as classic Hopewell art.

Hopewell Mound Material—Information in article facing page. Jo Daviess County, Illinois.

Collection of Ken Simper
Hamilton, Indiana

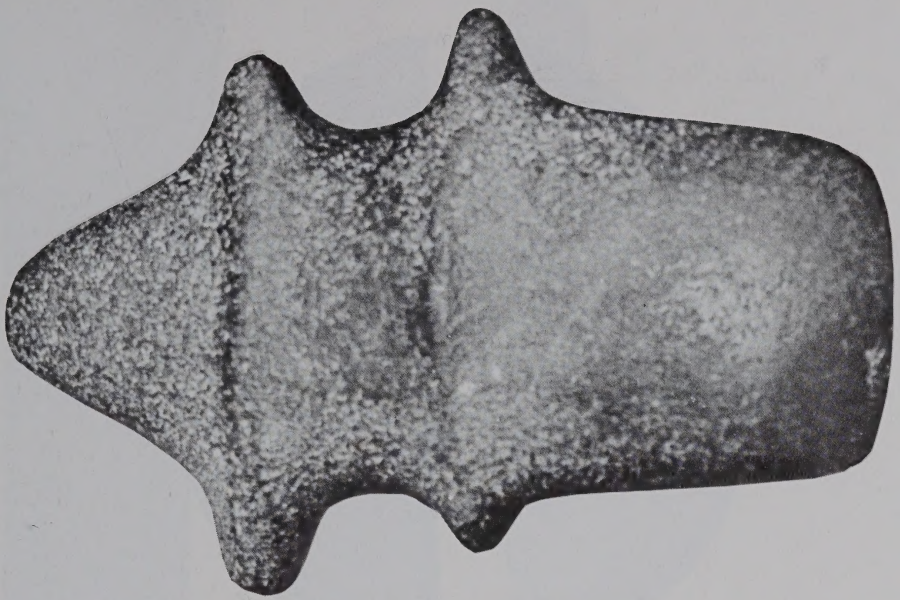


A fine three-fourth groove ax of speckled granite. Found in Macon County, Illinois.

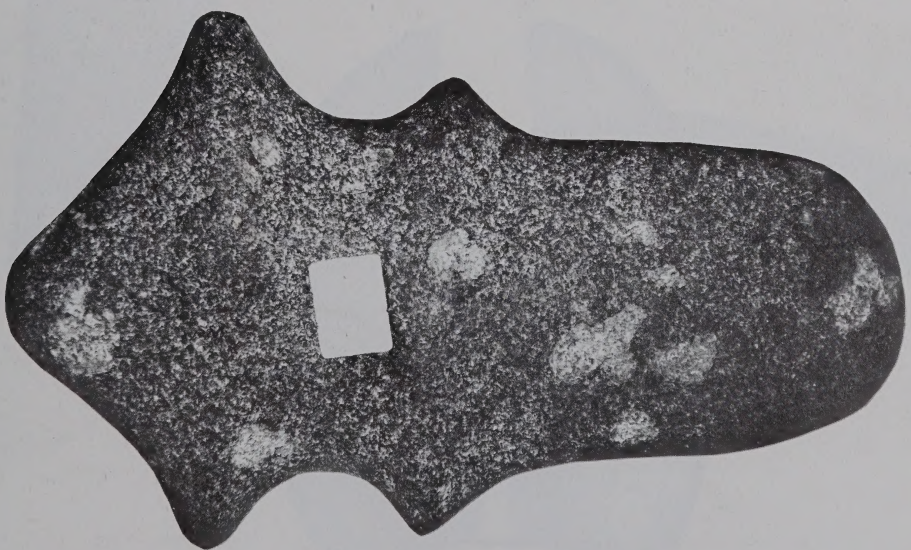
Collection of Don E. Lewis
Flora, Illinois.

A fine three-fourth grove ax made of wirey granite. 9¼ inches long. Formerly in the collection of Dr. Warren Baker, Michigan City, Indiana.

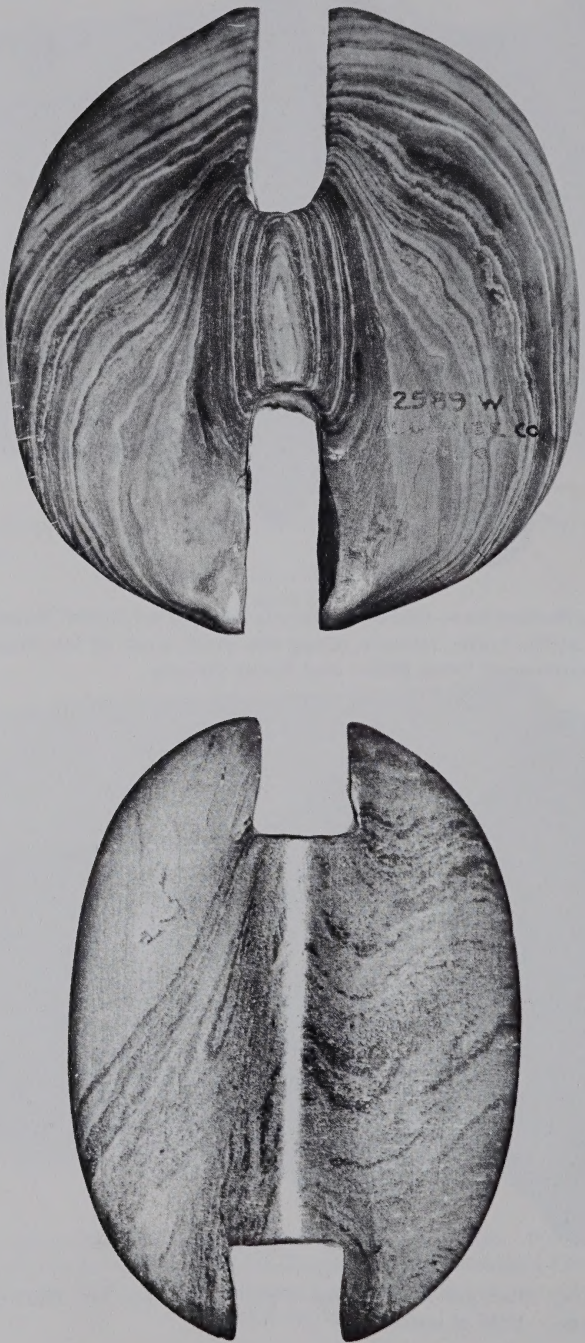
Collection of Lynn Munger
Fremont, Indiana

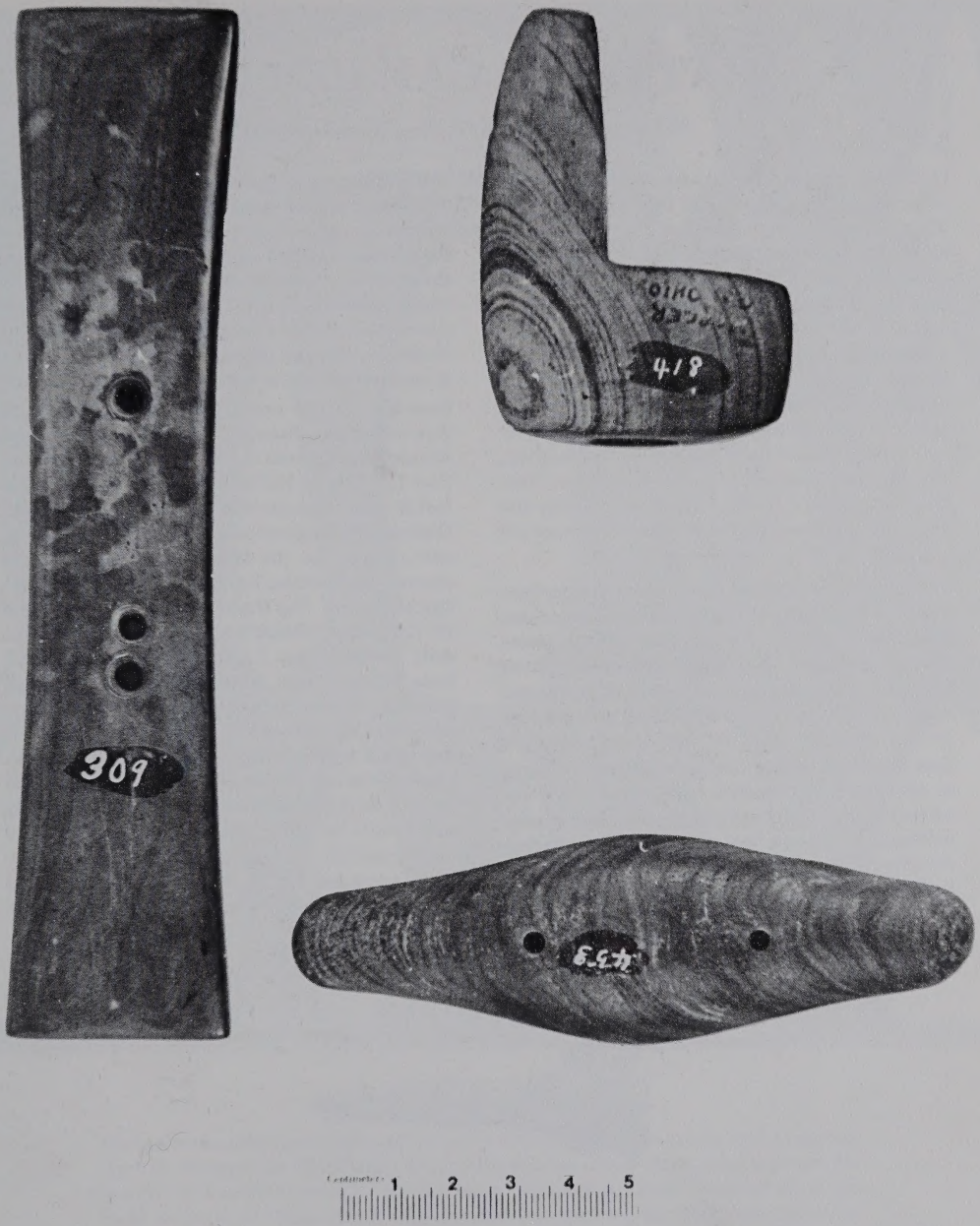


Michigan Barbed Axe—One of the very few found in Illinois. Found by B.A. Gehring at Rockfalls, Illinois, along the south bank of the Rock River. Photo, courtesy of Doug Miller and Frank Bubser.



A Porphyry Michigan Barbed Axe—Part of the fine Dr. Warren Baker assemblage. Sold at auction.





Three Ohio Ceremonial Forms—The three-hole gorget is from the well-known Zimmerman Site, Hardin County, Ohio. Formerly in the Dr. Bondley and Irvin Dougherty Collections.

MATCHING CAN BE FUN

William B. Taylor—Middleboro, Massachusetts

One of the most satisfying aspects of Indian relic collecting is the matching of two broken pieces. Most all collectors have found a nice broken specimen and then wished they could find the missing piece. To discover the lost portion, sometimes after an interval of several years, is an extremely rewarding experience.

During the last 35 years I have matched many broken pieces, resulting in over two dozen complete projectile points, drills, knives, an ulu and a 15″ pestle (see figure 1A). Approximately one third of these finds were made by digging, usually appearing below the plow zone and from the Late Archaic period. Frost is probably the main cause of these fractures, since the pieces are separated by only a few inches.

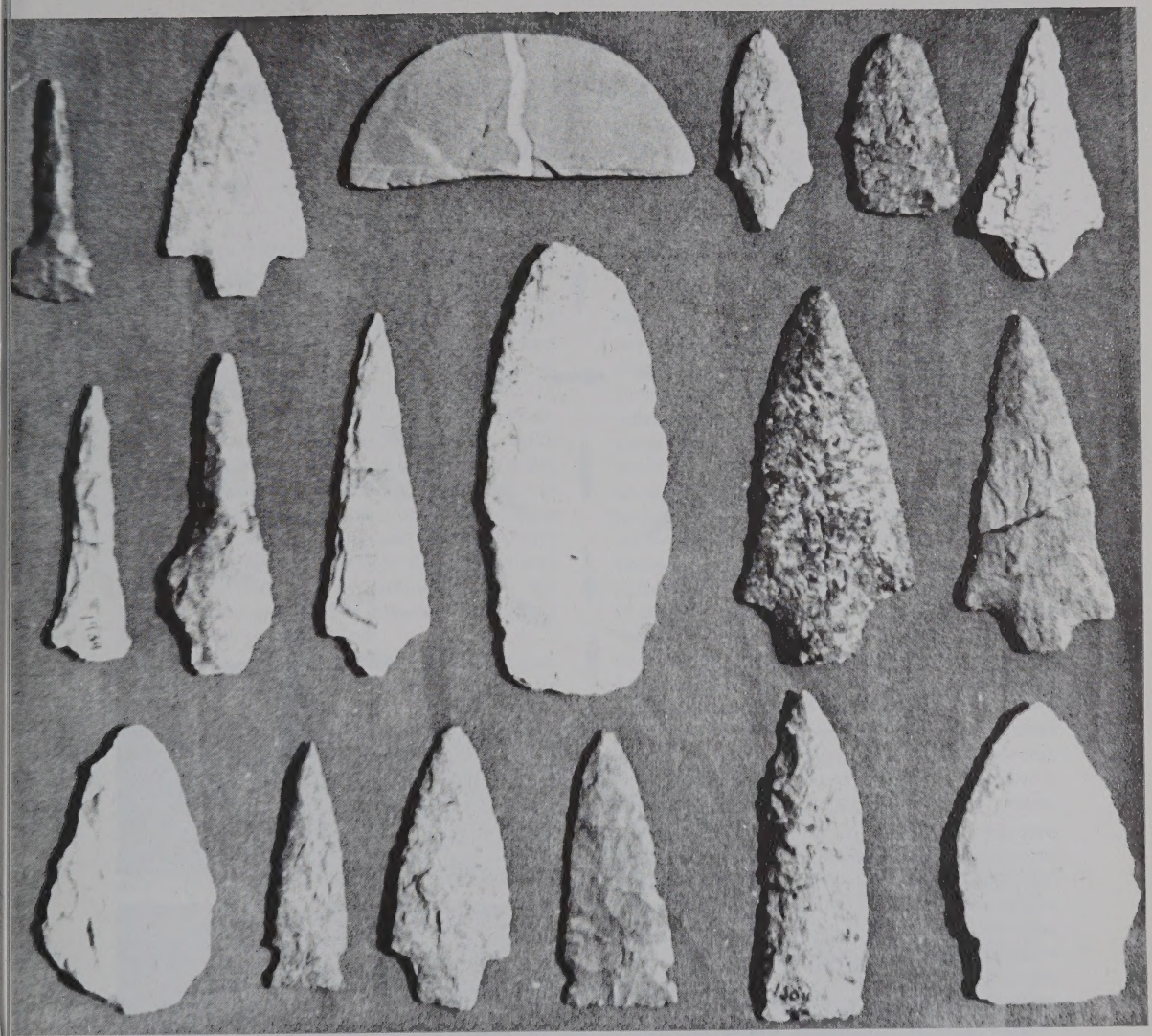
The majority of matched pieces come from surface hunting. Through the years I carefully separated good broken artifacts by site, putting these pieces in separate boxes. This makes an excellent winter pastime. When the ground is frozen or covered with snow, I can still hunt through boxes and occasionally match up two pieces.

Dirt roadways to lake cabins or summer cottages at the beach are another good spot to look for broken points. Constant wear and erosion expose artifacts, which are then broken by the passing vehicles. If the timing is right, the broken pieces lie side by side.

Motor bike trails, horse trails, logging roads and old wagon roads through wooded areas have all yielded a few matched points too. Burials containing "killed" grave goods are another example of broken pieces that can be mended. In recent years a local collector was helping dig out a crawl-space under a shed, to make a full cellar. Under the existing foundation appeared a mortar in two pieces, which were readily glued together.

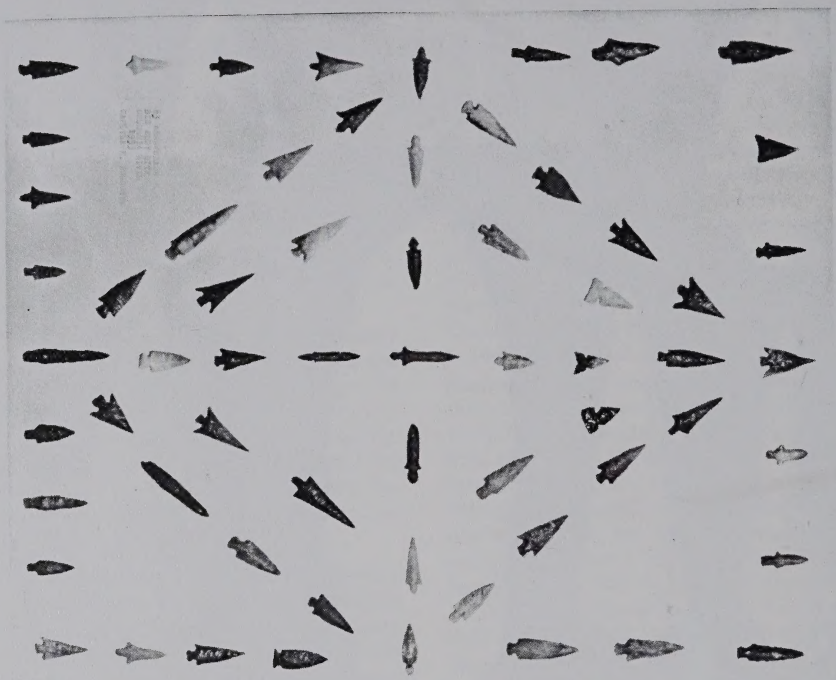
Sometimes many years pass between finds and this makes the discovery all the more exciting. Around 1945 I found the base of a flint drill at the Fort Hill Site in No. Middleboro, Mass. For the last 25 years this site was abandoned to farming. During 1978 I agreed to plow this lost site for the new owner. In the following months I found several nice points, knives, drills, scrapers and two plummets. But the real prize came on March 10, 1979, when I found the 1¼″ bit of a delicate flint drill. Immediately I remembered the flint drill base which I had found years ago and upon returning home brought it out. From initial inspection it appeared to be the missing piece. A few years earlier I had the bit restored, so with some hesitancy I broke off the restored point and tried to fit my latest find in place. It fit perfectly and results in a fine, delicate, complete 2¼″ drill (see figure 2A). To make a find like this over thirty years apart is a real thrill. It shows what careful recording and dogged persistence can accomplish.

Full scale drawing of flint side - notched drill by William S. Fowler. It is made of black flint and is probably an import from New York. Collection of William B. Taylor Middleboro, Mass



Eighteen complete projectile points, knives, spears, drills and an ulu from the Early Archaic through the Woodland Period. The Broken pieces were found through the last 35 years and matched up. The knife in the center is 4½" long. The slate ulu at the right center is 3½" long with a white stripe through the center. At the top left is the flint side-notched drill, the two pieces being found over 30 years apart. All from a section of No. Middleboro and Bridgewater, Mass. Known as Titicut.

Collection of William B. Taylor
Middleboro, Mass.



COLUMBIA RIVER ARTIFACTS

Carlye F. Burgoyne — Shady Cove, Oregon

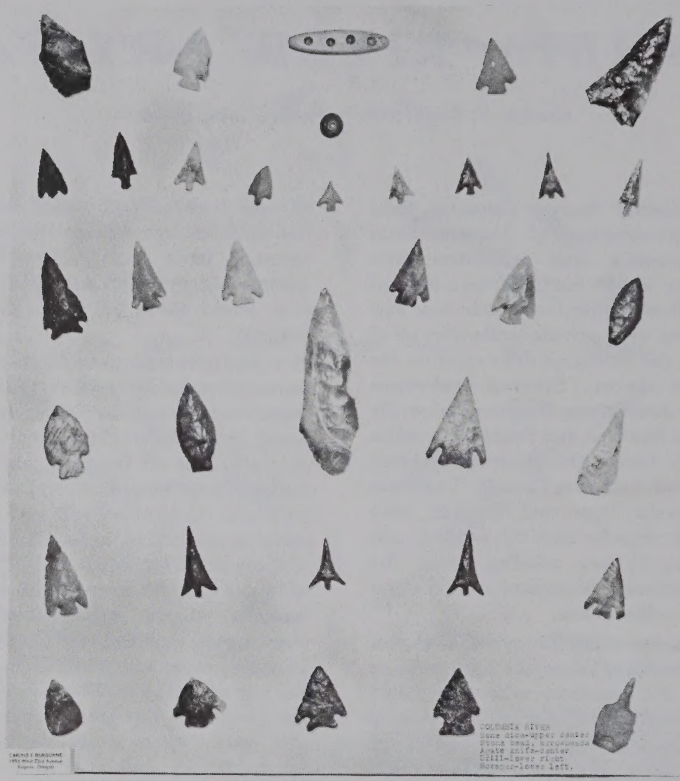
How does a collector recover Columbia Gem Points? We-ell—because of indiscriminate diggers, professionals, and legislators who wouldn't know an Indian Artifact from a team of horses we are Blessed with laws, both state and federal, restricting us to private lands. Not all of the lands along the Columbia are owned by the government, but almost. Starting somewhere near three miles downstream from the Bonneville Dam, which is a hundred and twenty five miles from the Pacific Ocean the government owns almost all the land clear up to Canada. The areas between Bonneville Dam and Canada were favorite hunting areas for both the amateur and the professional, to say nothing about the indiscriminate outlaw. The present outlook along the Columbia is rather bleak.

But how did we recover the Columbia River gem point of the yesterdays when the laws were as ambiguous as the legislator who formulated them? First we would do a lot of surface hunting and when we'd find a concentration of evidence of chippings and maybe a few Indian artifacts we'd settle in for a good dig. I would first sample the site by post sized holes in an orderly manner so that when I was through I'd feel that I had a pretty good idea of the value or the density of artifacts. I took a lot of pictures with a very new looking camera and stockpiled about twenty rolls of films before having them processed. What a mistake that was. Almost every picture showed evidence of pin holes in the bellows. I had been making some big payments on some property and needed every nickle I could save for that so even paying for gasoline to get to the digs was hurting. Sure wished I had had the camera I can afford today—Those pictures would be quite valuable.

The dig I'd make was by trenches five feet wide and down to bedrock, if it was there, or to sterile ground. On the Columbia I used a third inch square mesh screen mostly, a quarter inch screen sometimes and an eighth inch screen for beads. The soil was mostly a sandy silt so getting the soil through the screen wasn't much of a problem. One winter however the soil was wet and the screen full of rocks would be muddy and I couldn't tell what I had until I took the screen full-of rocks to the river to wash them clean. How beautiful they'd become—agates a shining and the arrowheads, if any, would stand out like a department store display.

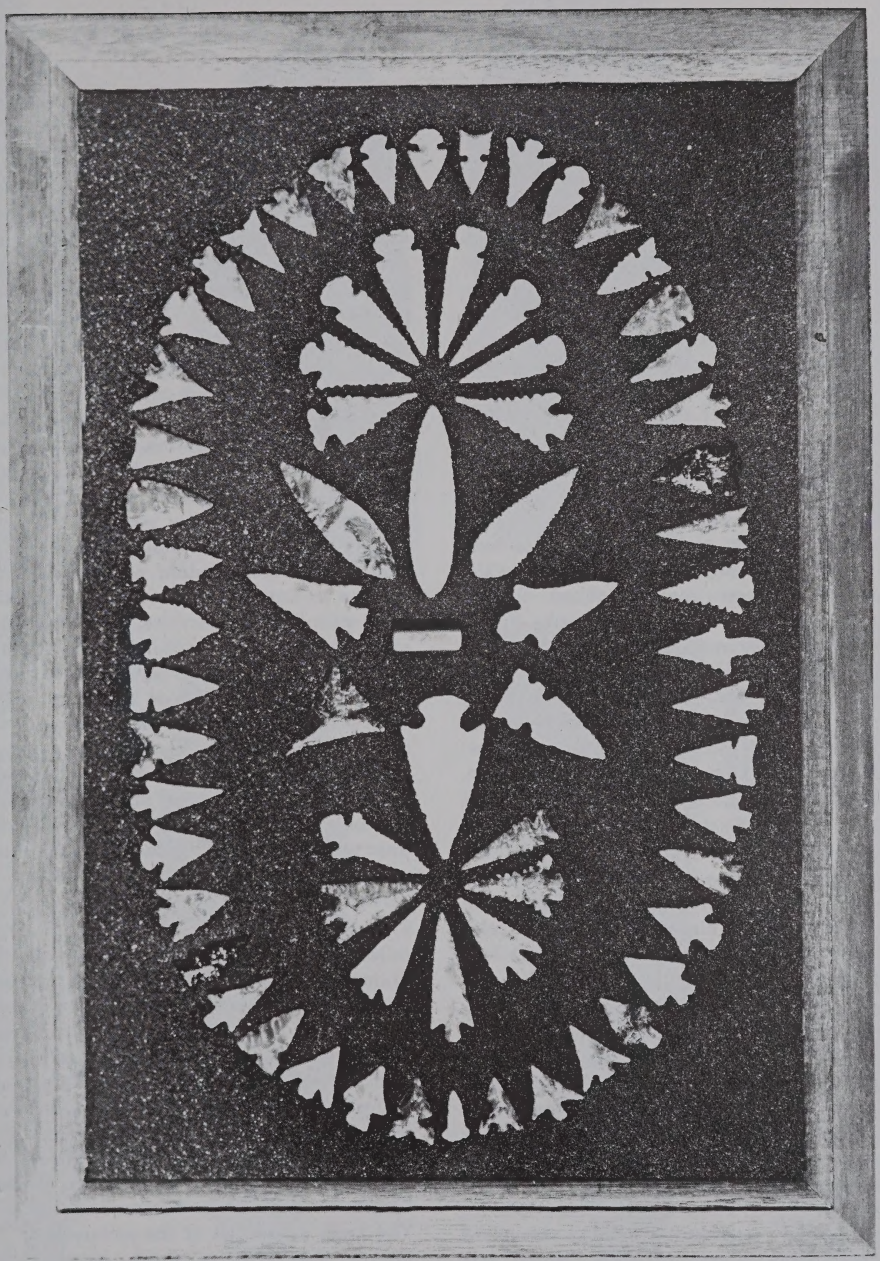
How lucky we were to be digging in those earlier years before the dams were completed and backed water over some of the richest Indian sites in the world. Several of we diggers realized this and took as much time off from our jobs as we possibly could, without being fired, and we'd dig as hard as we could. Columbia River gem points made up about ten percent of the total take I'd guess. Most of these would be translucent. The various kinds of stones used for these points were chalcedony, wascoite, quartz, jasper, obsidian, carnelian, chert, agate, and probably others. Wascoite is a brownish stone with white inclusions sometimes and was named after Wasco County, Oregon where quite a bit of it was found. Petrified woods were also used. These translucent points are most beautiful when displayed in a light box over a frosted glass with the lights below of course.

Along the Columbia River I doubt that one square foot of the entire area from the ocean to its source in Canada was not used by the Indians who left all kinds of artifacts. The Columbia was full of salmon and other fish, and when the salmon made their annual upstream runs the Indians were there to net or spear them. There was a place called Spearfish Washington at Wakemap Mound where Lewis and Clark visited on their westward trek in either 1804 or 1805. Wakemap Mound had been lived on for centuries by the Indians and the University of Washington conducted a dig there in 1955 and 1956. The dig became what is known as a crash dig in order to recover as many artifacts as possible in an orderly manner before the backwaters of the Dalles Dam inundated the site. Wakemap Mound was an Indian city and there were hundreds of these little cities along the Columbia River, but the best one of them all that I had anything to do with was what I called the Big Eddy site. It was by far the richest for me. We used



to figure that if you could recover one arrowhead an hour by screening the site was worth the effort. At the Big Eddy site I could screen out about twenty a day with an added trinket now and then like a bowl, pestle, or whatever. It seemed that the wind was always blowing and I sometimes used this force to help me screen the silty sand. I'd set my screen up in such a way that the wind would blow under it and the sand and silt would rattle through the screen with-out my shaking it. We would give each site we dug a special name for identification reasons and one of these sites had three names: It was called Spedis Valley, Callowish Bottom, and Horse Thief Valley. This place, apparently was a place of varied uses: It was a place for the dead (a crematorium), a place for camping, and a place for meetings of the returning tribes. I've been told, and I believe it's true, that the Indians used this area as we might use a fair grounds with entertainment such as games, singing, and a real celebration place. All of these sites I've mentioned plus dozens of others yielded gem stone arrowheads. We diggers, though, were very happy indeed just to find a well shaped arrowhead complete in every detail. If we recovered a gem stone arrowhead we were thrice rewarded. Several diggers called these "lickers" and would pop them into their mouths and clean off the dirt that they'd spit onto the ground. Yes, a well formed complete Columbia River arrowhead is a beautiful creation, and I doubt that many others can compare with the gem stone from along this mighty river.

If any of my readers are really interested and you have Oregon as one of your visits I'd be happy to have you visit me and my museum. Just phone 878-2380 first to be sure I'm home at Shady Cove, Oregon.



Columbia River gempoints and birdpoints
Collection of Fred Diehl
Auburn, Indiana

BLACK OHIO FLINT KNIVES

Steven Hart

Black Ohio flint points have long captured this writer's fancy. Glossy-black flint points, brown-black knives, and blue-black blades and blanks are generally of highest quality materials, demonstrate good form and workmanship, and are just plain attractive to the eye. The Ohio (and West Virginia) black (and blue-black) flints came from many sources including Coshocton, Flint Ridge, Upper Mercer, Kanawha (West Virginia), Zaleski and even the Plum Run deposits.

Having collected Black and Blue-black points almost exclusively throughout my collecting career, I have made several significant observations. First, black flint materials were used frequently, perhaps foremost, by many of the early man cultures that inhabited Ohio. Begining with the Paleo, and later the Plano, Archaic and Woodland peoples, numerous flint specimens were fashioned from the above basic black flints. The zenith of black flintknapping appears to have been reached in the Archaic, with great numbers of points such as side notches, heavy duties, Archaic bevels, corner nothes, diagonal corner notches, Thebes, E-notches, basal notches, dovetails, etc., having been made.

Second, the quality of flintknapping of black flints is excellent, with fine percussion and pressure flaking exhibited by most pieces. Early man undoubtedly fancied black not only for its color but also for its quality and workability.

Third, a large number of what are often referred to today as flint knives, are fashioned from black (including shades of blue, gray and brown) materials. Flints from the above-mentioned deposits were used by men, Paleo through Fort Ancient, as the "steel for their blades". Many of us today take pride in the pocket knife we carry or perhaps our personal knife collections. Early man likewise must have demonstrated similar pride when he possessed a fine knife, whether it be for ceremonial show or general utility. An example of superb primitive cutlery is shown in Figure 1. It is formed of Coshocton flint, is 5⅝ inches (14.3 cm) long and was first collected in Mercer County, Ohio. The workmanship of the piece shows that the original owner was very proud of his possession and used it sparingly, as it shows no flaws. Perhaps upon completion, the flintknapper put it aside, and showed it only in his display case.

In researching background material for this article, the writer became aware of very fine distinctions drawn between flint blades, knives and long spear points. There is continuing debate and there will probably always be discussions, as to whether large flint points were originally used strictly as spears, as knives, or both. This writer chooses not to take a position with either viewpoint, but instead limits this piece to those long flints which contain no grooves, hafting notches, or any other pronounced indentations. Even with these restrictions, the terms "knives" and "blades" are often synonymous in literature. Writers, such as Don W. Dragoo, refer to groups of flint pieces as "leaf-shaped blades or knives". After studying a number of such pieces, this writer concludes that in many instances, and especially among the Ohio Adena cultures, a specific distinction between knives and long thin blades *cannot* be drawn. Some of these points exhibit wear patterns that signify their use as utilitarian, while almost identical pieces show no wear whatsoever.

The earliest Ohio knife forms, in the writer's collection, were fashioned by Paleo man. Three examples of this "square knife" type are presented in Figure 2. These knives display no flutes, but some pieces of this type show fluting on one or both faces. The longest of the three is 4½ inches (11.5 cm) and all are approximately 1¾ inches (4.5 cm) wide. The center knife shows heavy wear on both ends. It was fashioned with a high level of craftsmanship as the sides and ends demonstrate fine pressure flaking. The piece is of Coshocton flint and was found in Delaware County, Ohio. The knife at the left of the picture is of Upper Mercer flint and is much more crude in construction, as the edges display heavy wear. It appears to have been resharpened numerous

(Continued on page 38)

1
2
3
4

(Continued from page 36)

times but its edges still retain a definite sharpness. The third and smallest knife is of the classic square edge form. It is roughly made and has numerous chips and gouges.

The lanceolate points of Figure 3 are "spear points" to some and "knives" to others. The lanceolate is a late Ohio Paleo piece attributed to the Plano culture. Lanceolate knives are generally not of a similar quality of flint working as were earlier Paleo and later Archaic flints. The knife at the left is from Trumbull County, Ohio, and exhibits excellent percussion and pressure chipping. Bases on this type of piece are generally straight or slightly convex. Many show a grinding along the blade edges.

Knives of the Ohio Archaic period are of various shapes, sizes and flint materials. Two of the author's finer Archaic knives are shown in Figure 4. The knife at the left is 5¼ inches (13 cm) long, made of Coshocton flint and is very finely formed and chipped. Its generally triangular shape is not unlike the form found in fine cutlery today. Its past owners have valued it very highly as it shows no sign of utility. The knife on the right is 5⅜ inches (13.5 cm) in length and is of black and mottled gray-brown Flint Ridge material. This piece shows much wear and has several distinctive chips missing, probably from cutting or scraping. Even with the damage, it is a very attractive piece. Many Archaic knives are beveled and others show only one finely chipped blade edge. These two examples are double-edged and were finished with fine pressure flaking.

The Ohio Adena and Hopewell peoples fashioned many, many blades and blanks from high quality, colored flints. The classic Adena blade is leaf-shaped while the Hopewell blade comes in two forms; a triangular shape with a convex base and a pentagonal form. The writer believes that most of these basic blank forms were not used as knives or had no other utlitarian purposes. The Adena people did, however, make two types of extended length leaf-shaped artifacts that are considered to be knives. These flints contained round or flat/square bases such as those shown in Figure 5. All three of these examples are of Upper Mercer flint and are a very lustrous jet black in color. The maximum width of the Adena knife typically occurs somewhere near its center. The quality of workmanship is not as good as many of the earlier Archaic pieces. Adena leaf-shaped knives range in length from 3 inches (7½ cm) to 6 inches (5.2 cm). The longest knife in Figure 5 is 4½ inches (11.5 cm) in length.

Figure 6 shows the writer's only Hopewell and Fort Ancient knives. The Hopewell piece at the right could be considered a large cache blade except that it displays a high degree of wear on one blade edge, much resharpening on the other and very heavy patination overall. This piece demonstrates the classic Hopewell triangular form with its accompanying convex base. The flint is from the Upper Mercer deposit. The Hopewell knife in the center shows the same outline but apparently has been reground many times and is now quite narrow.

The point at the left in Figure 6 was fashioned by the Fort Ancient culture. Fort Ancient knives are trinangular in shape and were made with bases that have slight shoulders. Blade sides are typically straight and sometimes contain a slight beveled edged. Specimens vary from 3 inches (7.5 cm) to 5 inches (12.5 cm) in length. This example is 4 inches (10 cm) long and is of Zaleski flint.

I am sure I do not have all types of Ohio knives, but I consider the discussion presented here to be representative of the majority of flint knife types collected today. I welcome comments on this interesting and sometimes provocative topic. Thanks for listening.

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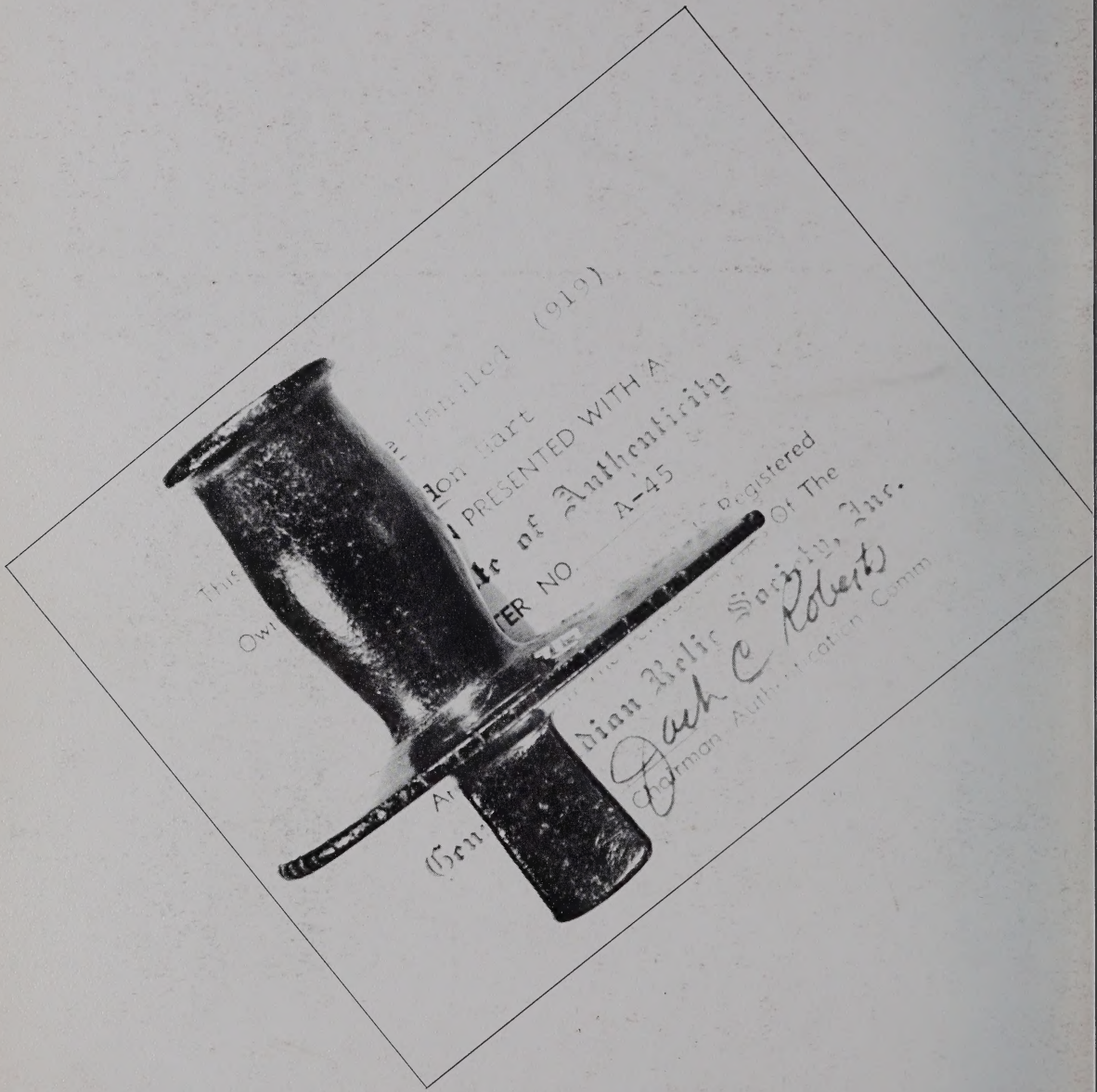

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